

RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS OF THE CITY OF FARMINGTON

CHRISTIAN CHURCH

During the year 1854 a Bro. Church, assisted by Bro. Ellis Douthit, held a series of meetings in the old Court House at Farmington, which resulted in the organization of the Farmington Christian Church. This organization continued until the beginning of the Civil War, when it became disorganized. In September, 1875, Bro. J. C. Farmer reorganized the church, and this organization still exists. The



Rev. J. M. Bailey
Present Pastor

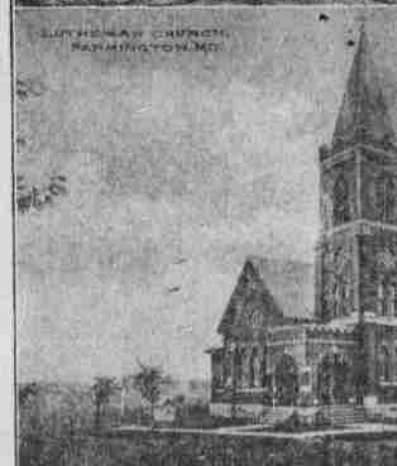
charter members were, Bro. Samuel P. Fleming, Mrs. Bittie Fleming, Mrs. Charley Mawrey, James H. Taylor, Mrs. Amanda C. Taylor, Dr. J. A. Williamson, Mrs. Luck Alexander, Mrs. Harmon, Lazarus Pritchett, Mildred Casibolt, Isaiah Morgan, Thos. E. Douthit and Mrs. Pattie Douthit.

Thomas E. Douthit and Samuel P. Fleming were chosen Elders, and Isaiah Morgan and Jas. H. Taylor were chosen Deacons. After its organization, the congregation worshiped in the old brick building known now as the old Laundry. When this was sold to the M. E. Church, the Christian Church bought the frame building back of the Farmers Bank from the M. E. Church, South. They used this for some years, then bought the Presbyterian Church, which stood on the present lot of the Christian Church. In 1900 this building was torn down, and their present building erected.

Since its reorganization, the church has had its trials and troubles, but has been rich in its faith, and has gone forward until it now numbers more than two hundred and fifty members. A splendid Bible school with an enrollment of more than 200, two Ladies' Aid Societies, a Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor, and Intermediate Endeavor Society and a splendid Christian Woman's Board of Missions Auxiliary. Following is the present Board of Officers: T. D. Fisher, G. O. Nations, R. Fugate, Elders; J. S. Clay, J. E. Klein, J. E. Cover, J. L. Swink, J. W. Buck, J. W. McCarthy, Barry Phillips, Frank Coffman, G. N. Baker, Deacons; W. N. Fleming, Treasurer; Barry Phillips, Clerk; J. M. Bailey, Minister. The congregation has a bright future before it, as it is thoroughly united and at work. J. S. Clay is Superintendent of the Bible school; Miss Leroy Raines, Pres. Christian Endeavor; Mrs. W. N. Fleming, Supt. of International Endeavor; Mrs. J. M. Bailey, Pres. C. W. B. M.; Mrs. Barry Phillips and Mrs. Morgan, Presidents of the Ladies' Aids.

FIRST METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The First Methodist Episcopal Church was organized as a class some time during the year 1864. In 1865 a Presiding Elder, with three other preachers, one of whom was Rev. J. H. Denman, of this town, walked across the country from Mineral Point to



Farmington, and after consultation with Miss Carleton, the first pastor of the organization was stationed here. For half a century the church has had a steady growth. For many years the place of worship was the brick building now occupied by Kollmeyer & Herbst as a feed store. In 1904, the present home of the congregation, known as the Rock church, was built. The congregation has about 275 members and maintains a Sunday school which has an average attendance of over 200 for the entire year. This Sunday school is known as one of the most thoroughly organized and most perfectly graded schools in the state. C. B. Denman is the efficient Superintendent.



Rev. Arthur A. Halter
Present Pastor

The officers of the official board are: President, C. B. Denman; Secretary, M. A. Young; Financial Sec., Daisy Stevenson; Treasurer, Henry W. Manley.

The local preachers are A. K. Stevenson and J. H. Denman.

The present pastor is Arthur A. Halter, a native of Southeast Missouri. He is a graduate of Northwestern University and has had special training for his profession in Garrett Biblical Institute.

The hours of worship are as follows: Sunday school, 9:30 a. m.; Preaching, 10:50 a. m. and 7:30 p. m.; Epworth League, 6:30 p. m.; Midweek service, 7:30 p. m., Wednesday.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SOUTH

The present elegant building was erected in 1901. It was enlarged and remodeled six years ago under the pastorate of the Rev. Court, to receive a \$2,000 Pipe Organ, the gift of Mrs. Jane Bisbee of Canada, in memory of Mrs. Sarah Barton Murphy, who was one of the founders of Methodism in this community, and who organized here the first Sunday school West of the Mississippi river. The church is named "The Sarah Murphy Memorial Church." The name of this good woman, together with her daughter, Mrs. Isabella Murphy Long, is remembered in two fine art-glass windows, placed by Mr. D. H. Long of Canada, and others of their descendants. The property cost \$17,000.00, and has a modernly equipped parsonage. The lot for the first Methodist Church was deeded in 1803. There have been added to the roll this year, under the pastorate of Rev. J. R. A. Vaughan, 52 names, 31 being on profession of faith. The present roll is 380, with a Sunday school roll of 275.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

The St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran congregation of Farmington was organized in 1873 at Copenhagen by nine voting members under the Rev. F. Besel of Gordonville, Mo. The first local pastor called to minister to the congregation was the Rev. C. F. Obermeyer. The first house of worship, a frame building, was erected in 1875. In 1908 the present handsome church, representing a value of \$16,000.00, with a seating capacity of 300, was dedicated to the service of the Lord. The congregation now numbers 251 communicant members, and 57 voting members. The present pastor of the congregation is Rev. Herman Hallberg, a graduate of the Concordia College of Milwaukee, Wis., and the Concordia Theological Seminary of St. Louis, Mo. The Board of

Elders consists of the following members: Fred Reuter, Chairman; Emil Schramm, Treasurer; Carl Brockmiller, Financial Secretary; Henry Giessing and Philipp Westmeyer, Jr., Trustees; Fred Schramm and W. C. Fischer, Deacons. The Christian schooling of the young is in charge of Prof. E. Koschmand, a graduate of the Lutheran Normal College of Addison, Ill. The school has an enrollment of 51 pupils. The societies of the church are the following: The Ladies' Aid—Mrs. Louise Herbst President; Mrs. G. Schliesser, Sec.-Treasurer. The Berea Bible Class—Ernest Lueders, Chairman; Miss Alma Schramm, Secretary-Treasurer. The church choir, directed by Miss Mathilda Reuter. The Sunday School Teachers' Society—D. F. Giessing, Supt.; Ernest Lueders, Pres.; Miss Elizabeth Giessing, Sec.; Miss Anna Brockmiller, Treas. The services at the church were originally held in the German Language; but at present the services are conducted in German and English, the German services being held in the morning on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month, and in the evening of the 3rd and 5th Sundays in the morning, and on the 1st, 2nd and 4th Sundays in the evening. In the morning of the 1st Sunday the pastor conducts services at Fredericktown, Mo. The Sunday school is conducted entirely in English.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

The First Missionary Baptist Church of Farmington was organized and established in March, 1882, by the following charter members: Rev. J. G. Hardy, Rev. J. F. Baker, Mrs. Theodia Hardy, Miss Ambie Hardy, Eliza Lloyd, Lizzie Lloyd, Martha Baker, Dora Easley, and Elizabeth Reasinger, being 10 in number. The first regular services were held in the Old Baptist College, which place was used for the services until in 1892, when a new frame church

building was erected at a cost of \$2,500. This building was used until the present commodious house of worship was built in 1910.

At each successive change the membership had grown to such proportions as to necessitate larger quarters to accommodate the rapidly growing congregation.

Rev. F. M. Shoush was the pastor when the new frame building was erected in 1892 and was the principal moving spirit who inspired the congregation to provide a larger house of worship.

The latest home of the congregation was erected under the pastorate of Rev. S. P. Brite in

1910, and a beautiful parsonage was also built for the resident of the pastor at a cost of about \$2,500.

The first pastor was Rev. James F. Baker, one of the charter members of which there were ten.

The congregation, though small in the beginning, grew by leaps and bounds, and its small membership, by regular addition and with the development and growth of the city and surrounding country, soon grew to such size that the old home of worship was too small to meet the requirements.

At present the church is in a thrifty condition, having a splendid house of worship and beautiful parsonage adjoining where lives Rev. O. H. L. Cunningham, the present popular pastor. The membership at this time is 239. There are two societies working in conjunction with the church: the Ladies' Aid and Missionary Society, besides a regularly organized Sunday school class with about 140 attendants, of which Prof. W. L. Johns is the incoming superintendent. Miss Maggie Menge is chief official of the Ladies' Aid.

The church under the present pastor is progressing nicely and doing a splendid work in molding the maturing man and womanhood of the community by exercising a splendid Christian influence on the generation who will conduct affairs in the near future.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

This church is located in the West portion of the city and is a costly and beautiful building, with a membership of 225, and the present pastor, Rev. W. H. DuBose, is a man of great personality. The congregation is very progressive and is one of the most influential in Farmington.

ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH

This beautiful and costly church edifice is situated on Columbia St. in the East part of town. It is one of the largest and most imposing structures in this part of the State. The membership is large and very progressive. The present pastor is Rev. J. R. Morgan.

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